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Cassin and Stevens, 1852.

- [1] *Cyanocorax luxuosus* (Lesson).
- [2] *Melanerpes formicivorus*
(Swainson).
- [3] *Chamæa fasciata* (Gambel).
- [4] *Lophophanes atricristatus*
(Cassin).
- [5] *Crytonyx Massena* (Lesson).

The present copy bears in pencil, in Cassin's handwriting, this note : " Suppressed number."

It is evident that this " suppressed number " must be cited as a separate work, distinct from Cassin's 'Illustrations, etc.' (1853-55), as it differs in so many respects from it, and has a joint authorship. The suppression of a work does not mean that it is not citable as long as one or more copies exist in a place of reference.

WILLIAM J. FOX,

Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.

NOTES AND NEWS.

BARON EDMOND DE SÉLYS LONGSCHAMPS, whose death at the age of 87 was announced in the last number of this journal (XVIII, p. 219) was born at Paris, May 25, 1813, though a descendant of an eminent family of Liège, Belgium, of which country he was not only a citizen but where he was prominent in political affairs, being successively councilor, deputy, senator, vice-president, and finally president of the Belgian Senate. His scientific writings cover a wide field, he being a recognized authority on the Odonata (dragon-flies), and wrote extensively on mammals and birds. His first paper, on the birds and insects of Belgium, was published in 1831, when he was eighteen years of age, and was followed by a long series of contributions to scientific literature, including reviews and briefer notices as well as many original monographs, for the most part relating to Vertebrates. In 1839 he contributed a notable paper to the 'Revue Zoologique' on the classification of Passerine birds, and in 1844 appeared his 'Faune Belge,' part one being devoted to the Vertebrate Fauna of Belgium, birds occupying pp. 45-108. A most noteworthy contribution to mammalogy was his 'Etudes de Micromammalogie,' published in 1839,—a work so much in advance of the time that its great merits were

not then duly appreciated, but in these days of minute discrimination of characters it takes the high rank justly its due. Baron Sélys was thus eminent both as a naturalist and as a statesman, and distinguished among his fellow citizens for his courtesy and sincerity of character.

BARBARA JORDAN, daughter of President Jordan of Stanford University, died at Palo Alto September 13, 1900. She was born Nov. 10, 1891, being just as old as the University itself. The little girl was a born ornithologist. Before any one had thought of teaching her, she knew all the forest trees of the Sierras by name and the birds of the university campus by their songs. Afterwards she extended this knowledge to an acquaintance with all the song birds of the United States as represented in her little collection. Her books on birds have been made the nucleus of a large library of ornithology presented to Stanford University as the "Barbara Jordan Library of Birds."

TO WILLIAM MACGILLIVRAY, the well-known author of a 'History of British Birds,' and as the acknowledge coadjutor of Audubon in the preparation of his great work on American birds, and hence an especially interesting personage to American ornithologists, a memorial tablet was unveiled at Marischal College, Aberdeen, Scotland, with appropriate commemorative addresses by Dr. John Forbes White, Principal Marshall Lang, and others, some of whom had been his pupils at Aberdeen. High tributes were paid to his moral worth and high scientific attainments in a wide field of research, and especially to the ability with which he filled the Chair of Natural History in Marischal College and University from 1841 to 1852, when at the early age of fifty-six he was laid to rest in the New Calton Burying Ground of Edinburgh. Said Dr. White, in his presentation address: "Had sufficient money been at our disposal, we should have adopted the suggestion of Sir John Struthers and founded a gold medal in MacGillivray's memory in the University. But, failing in this, we have had to content ourselves with a monument at his grave by Mr M'Glashen, of Edinburgh, in fine Peterhead granite, about nine feet high. The design would have pleased MacGillivray. Near the foot is a good-size golden eagle, the royal bird loved by the ornithologist, the extinction of which in the Scottish Highlands he deeply lamented. It fittingly suggests the lofty aspirations of MacGillivray. The eagle is finely executed in bronze by Mr. D. W. Stevenson, R. S. A., from a splendid drawing of the bird by MacGillivray himself, now the property of the British Museum. The monument is adorned with Celtic ornament, which befits the tombstone of our naturalist, who held that Gaelic was the most beautiful language in the world. In the center is a fine Iona Cross, symbol of the earnest faith of the reverent MacGillivray. The bronze tablet is made by 'The Guild of Handicraft' of London, from the design of Mr. Ashbee, whose work is well known. It is adorned with artistic representations of

some of the flowers and animals which were the friends of the man whose memory we wish to honor. The inscription reads: 'In memory of William MacGillivray, M. A., LL. D., born 1796, died 1852. Author of a 'History of British Birds' and other standard works in Natural Science; Professor of Natural History and Lecturer on Botany in Marischal College and University from 1841 to 1852. Erected in 1900, together with a monument at his grave in New Calton Cemetery, Edinburgh, by his relatives and surviving students, who affectionately cherish his memory, and by others desirous of doing honor to his character as a man and to his eminence as a naturalist.'

MacGillivray is best known as an ornithologist, but he was an authority, and published extensively, on botany, geology and conchology. That he was much in advance of his times in his liberality of thought is shown by Professor Trail's address, in which he quotes the following from MacGillivray's 'Manual of Botany,' published in 1840: "There is nothing absolutely certain as to species, much less as to the groups into which they are disposed, as genera, families, orders, tribes, and the like. We merely agree to consider as species individual plants which closely resemble each other in the structure and form of their organs. Such species, however, often pass into each other by gradations, which render it impossible to draw a line of demarcation, and thus all species are more or less arbitrary. We know from observation that all assumed species undergo changes from climate, cultivation, and other influences;" And this nearly twenty years before the appearance of Darwin's 'Origin of Species'! To him," says Prof. Trail, "Nature study in schools would have brought delight as the promise of a better state of education. I think that of him, as of few men can be said: 'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.' "

DR. W. L. RALPH, Honorary Curator of the Section of Birds' Eggs in the U. S. National Museum, it has been officially announced, has undertaken the continuation of the work entitled 'Life Histories of North American Birds,' begun by the late Major Charles Bendire. It may be added in this connection that Dr. Ralph desires to obtain as much information as possible regarding the life-history of each species, and any pertinent facts of original observation will be of particular interest to him, especially in so far as they relate to those species which in the Check-list of the American Ornithologists' Union are numbered from 514 to 635 inclusive.

It is hardly necessary to say that the great task left unfinished by Major Bendire has fallen into good hands, and will, we trust, be carried forward to completion in due time. Dr. Ralph is especially qualified for the work, and is worthy of every assistance that can be rendered him.